Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 16-19, 22, and 23 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled

or added. Claims 14 and 15 were previously cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-13 and 16-

24 are presented for examination.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by

Kenner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,749). Applicant submits that the present claims are

patentable over Kenner.

Kenner discloses a method and apparatus for implementing check instructions that

allow for the reuse of memory conflict information if no memory conflict occurs. The

method involves preloading one of a set of registers with data retrieved from a memory

starting at a first address. It further involves storing memory conflict information

representing the first address. This memory conflict information is later used for

determining if a memory conflict has occurred. Then, data is stored at a second address

in memory. If a memory conflict has occurred at between the first address and the

second address, then one of the registers is reloaded with the data located at the first

address. If a memory conflict did not occur, then the memory conflict information is left

for use during subsequent memory conflict checks. (Kenner at Abstract.).

Claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:
    executing a speculative read-reordered load instruction prior to a
    potentially conflicting load in an instruction sequence;

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storing memory conflict information representing the speculative read-reordered load;

     executing a read-reordered load check instruction associated with the speculative read-reordered load instruction, the read-reordered load check instruction to determine if an address of the potentially conflicting load matches an address of the stored memory conflict information; and

     validating the stored memory conflict information with a matching address to the address of the potentially conflicting load if the stored memory conflict information has a data value that is the same as a data value of the potentially conflicting load.

Applicant submits that Kenner does not disclose or suggest validating the stored memory conflict information with a matching address to the address of the potentially conflicting load if the stored memory conflict information has a data value that is the same as a data value of the potentially conflicting load, as recited by claim 1. Applicant can find no disclosure or suggestion of such a feature anywhere in Kenner. The Examiner cites Kenner at column 2, lines 55-60 as disclosing this feature. However, this cited portion only discusses branching to correction code to re-execute the load. In contrast, the cited feature of claim 1 validates the conflicting load without branching to any correction code. Furthermore, the load is validated even if it has a matching address -- as long as the data values are the same. Applicant can find no disclosure or suggestion of such a feature anywhere in Kenner. Therefore, claim 1, as well as its dependent claims, is patentable over Kenner.

Independent claims 7, 16, 18, and 22, also recite, in part, validating the stored memory conflict information with a matching address to the address of the potentially conflicting load if the stored memory conflict information has a data value that is the same as a data value of the potentially conflicting load. As discussed above, Kenner does not disclose or suggest such a feature. Therefore, claims 7, 16, 18, and 22, as well as

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their respective dependent claims, are patentable over Kenner for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.
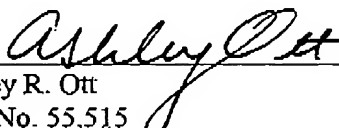
Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 7, 2006   _Ashley Ott_

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